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David H. Badger
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(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

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PATENT
Case No.: 970/045

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	
)	Art Unit: 3725
Robert D. Brand)	
)	Examiner: W. Donald Bray
Serial No.: Unknown)	
)	
Filed: Herewith)	
)	
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS)	
FOR RETAINING A FLITCH)	
FOR CUTTING)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement, including Forms PTO-1449. In addition to the documents identified in the Information Disclosure Statements filed in the prior applications and listed on the enclosed Forms PTO-1449:

Japan 63-61165 was cited in a corresponding Japanese patent application in rejecting some of the claims under Section 29(2) of the Japanese patent law.

While applicant has no translation of Japan 63-61165, applicant has been advised by the Japanese associates that U.S. Patent No. 4,352,488 to Cremona is "its patent family".

Applicant's counsel has become aware of U.S. Patent No. 5,865,232.

Serial No.: 09/245,954

Filed: February 5, 1999

U.S. Patent No. 5,865,252 has a filing date of March 7, 1997, and claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/013,035 filed on March 8, 1996.

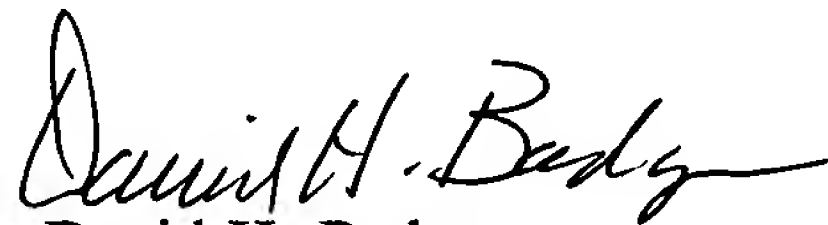
U.S. Patent No. 5,865,232 claims the same invention as disclosed by applicant in this application, which claims the benefit of prior U.S. patent application No. 08/455,479 filed May 31, 1995.

Copies of the references were previously cited or supplied in the prior applications relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and identified in this application. Applicant will supply further copies of any of the references upon request.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before a first Office Action on the merits has been received and with the filing of this application. Accordingly, no certification or fee is due or required.

Should it be required, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such required fee to Deposit Account 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this Statement is enclosed.

Respectfully Submitted,



David H. Badger
Atty. Reg. No. 22,597

Attachments: Form PTO-1449
Copies of Documents

DHB/mrc

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